Creation of task force on curricula stressed

By Our Correspondent

ISLAMABAD, Dec 31: The participants of a two-day conference on curricula have demanded of the federal government to constitute an effective task force on curricula to get useful suggestions proposed by the educationists.

They also stressed the need to appoint teachers in the schools only with bachelor degree to arrest the falling standard of education.

The conference was arranged by the curricula wing of the ministry of education to recognize the future socio-economic and cultural needs of education in the country.

The participants submitted following recommendations for the implementation.

-There is a need for the incorporation of examples from daily life in the textual material.

- Revision of books incorporating indigenous examples as the children observe in their surroundings.More emphasis was desired on illustrations to prove the concepts.

- Books should be reflective of Islamic national heritage. In the Social Science area the freedom movement in socio-cultural orientation be highlighted. In certain areas, sequence of difficulty level be ascertained.

- In physical and biological science, teaching methodologies should be lecture-cum- demonstration and there should be greater emphasis on laboratory practicals. The concept taught in theory classes should be translated in laboratory practical as well.

- Pre-service and in-service training of teacher of school should be in a way that they should be made to realize the disciplines and importance of curricula at all levels.

- Teachers should be suitably paid to enhance their social status.Similarly, they should be exposed to regular in service training after some regular periods to enhance their teaching abilities.

- To ensure quality education, the examination and the assessment of the curricula up to class IV be performed by the respective schools.At middle level, elementary boards be constituted to examine the students at Grade-VIII. For class IX onward, the examination should be conducted by the Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education on annual basis.

- For quality evaluation, the need of training of paper-setters at all level should also be considered.

- Weightage to comprehension and applications of the subjects should be given.

- Provision of subjects to science students at Higher Secondary levels be extended beyond the Biology, Physics, Chemistry, and Mathematics to Computer Science, Electronics, Economics, Statistics.

- Rigid division of subjects between Medical and Engineering students be eliminated.

- Present National Curricula although under constant review, still places undue emphasis on rote memorization and has very limited relevance to real life problems. It hardly promotes creativity and innovation which are essential for all human endeavours. Recent developments in Biology, Chemistry, Electronics, Physics, and informatics are expected to revolutionalize the pattern of life as we move into the next century, therefore this sector also needs immediate and positive attention by the policy makers.